USE

November 19, 1975

POUCH MAIL

George J. Brandt, Jr., Esq.
Watson, Leavenworth, Kelton & Taggart
100 Park Avenue
New York, NY 10017

Re: Helf, 582-765 Great Britain PM 568

Dear George:

Our agents' analysis of the cited art seems to be very much to the point. Two items are not "prior art" because they do not predate us; a third does not deal with wrappers, but with encapsulated flavors. The fourth, British Spec. 946,142, described the use of polysaccharides as partial coatings for smoking product wrappers, and in no way suggests that such materials could constitute the wrapper unsupported.

As to Claim 1 (if it is identical to that of the U. S. Application), it does not read on tobacco leaf: first, because the term "film" seems inappropriate; second, and more importantly, because no single polysaccharide constitutes more than about 10 or 12 percent of leaf (cellulose and pectin each makes up about that fraction), so that there is no "main ingredient."

You may be able to provide what is mentioned in the agents' paragraph 4. As to whether to cancel Claims 9 and 10, we must leave that to your discretion. It would not seem to be a great loss.

Very truly yours,

G. Esler Inskeep
Assistant Patent Officer

ceh

cc: R. Thomson

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